## Message Text

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PAGE 01 CAIRO 19084 161502Z ACTION NEA-10

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 HA-05 SES-02 SAA-01 SSM-03 IO-13 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-05 H-01 INR-10 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 SP-02 SS-15 ICA-11 /088 W ------107493 172017Z /46

R 161452Z AUG 78 FM AMEMBASSY CAIRO TO SECSTATE WASHDC 2689 INFO AMCONSUL ALEXANDRIA AMEMBASSY TRIPOLI

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E.O. 11652: NA TAGS: EG LY

SUBJECT: EGYPTIANS EXPELLED FROM LIBYA

- 1. AUGUST 16 GUMHURIYYA FRONT PAGES REPORT THAT 450 EGYPTIANS HAVE BEEN EXPELLED FROM LIBYA ON ORDERS COL. QADHAFI. SHIP, CARRYING 260 EXPELLEES, REPORTEDLY ARRIVED IN ALEXANDRIA AUGUST 15. PAPER STRESSES DEPORTATION CARRIED OUT WITH NO NOTIFICATION TO EGYPTIAN AUTHORITIES. STORY ADDS, ALMOST GRATUITOUSLY, THAT SOME PASSENGERS HEARD THAT QADHAFI'S PURPOSE WAS TO EMBARRASS EGYPT AND TO DIVERT ATTENTION FROM THE CAMP DAVID CONFERENCE BY CREATING A PROBLEM.
- 2. COMMENT: THIS IS FIRST MAJOR EXPULSION REPORTED BY PRESS IN SOME MONTHS. IT DREW NO EDITORIAL COMMENT AND WAS PLAYED IN RELATIVELY LOW KEY. ONLY GUMHURIYYA TREATED ACCOUNT EXTENSIVELY, AND FOCUS WAS MORE ON EXPLOITATION OF DEPORTEES BY GREEK SHIP OWNERS THAN ON EXPULSION ITSELF. EILTS

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Subject: EGYPTIANS EXPELLED FROM LIBYA

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